

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: South Carolina	
COUNTY: Georgetown	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 11 1973

1. NAME	
COMMON: Chicora Wood Plantation	
AND/OR HISTORIC: Mantanzas (before 1853)	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Proceed N from Georgetown on U.S. 701 to intersection with county road #4, SE on #4 continue to intersection with county road #52, proceed NE on #52 about 18 miles. Plantation on right side of #52.			
CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown			
STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 45	COUNTY: Georgetown	CODE: 043

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas William Andrews, Jr.			
STREET AND NUMBER: 333 East Bay Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown	STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 45	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Georgetown County Court House			
STREET AND NUMBER: Screven Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Georgetown	STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 45	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: S.C. Preliminary Survey of Historic Places			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: S.C. Department of Archives and History			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1430 Senate Street, P.O. Box 11, 188 Capitol Station			
CITY OR TOWN: Columbia	STATE: South Carolina	CODE: 45	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> slightly	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

JUL 20 1972

In the opinion of Russell Wright, A.I.P. (who has done extensive historical survey work in South Carolina coastal areas), Chicora Wood Plantation is, architecturally, perhaps the finest building in the Waccamaw Region. Wright recommends Chicora Wood not only for nomination to the National Register, but also for consideration as a National Historic Landmark.

The plantation itself was begun sometime between 1732 and 1736, with the house built before 1819. The house is a two story, gabled roof building resting on a high brick basement. The walls are sheathed with clapboards, the gable ends have cornice returns running full width, and the corners are finished with flat corner boards. All sash on the upper floors is 9/9, with pointed arch windows in the gable ends. There is a later roof dormer with Palladian window. A one story porch extends around three sides of the house, supported with wooden Doric columns. The entrance stairs are double entry at the ground level, turning at a landing and continuing in a straight run to the porch level. The porch has been enclosed at the left and is screened at either end. The high basement is recessed behind the porch edge and screened with lattice-work. Original louvered shutters have wrought iron strap hinges and pintels. The nine panel entrance door, with original hardware, is framed with sidelights and a transom. The window frames are flat panels with a beaded inner face, and the door frame has square corner blocks.

The center hall has heart pine floors, the individual boards extending the full length of the hall. There is an interesting oval ceiling medallion consisting of acanthus leaves and rings of oak leaves and beads. There is also a good plaster cornice with a cast half bead inner border surrounding the ceiling. The rear door is nine panel, recessed on the inner face, bevelled on the exterior side, with original hardware. There is also a good paneled door to a closet under the stairs. Nine-panel doors to the side rooms have transom lights. The stair is post Civil War but of high quality. There is no chair rail and the base mold is a simple flat panel with beaded edge. The door trim is flat and undecorated.

The living room is dominated by an exceptional black marble mantel of classic detail, with splayed pilasters suggesting the Egyptian Revival influence popular in Europe at the time Chicora Wood was built. The room has an excellent cast plaster cornice and heart pine floors. There is no chair rail, and the simple beaded base mold is repeated in the hall. There is no overmantel or ceiling medallion. Double doors of good design flank the fireplace and lead to the library. The space under the windows is paneled, suggesting the possibility that they were originally operable as doors to the porch. The dining room has a simpler black marble mantel, a good cast plaster cornice and ceiling medallion of grape leaves

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) prior to 1819

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located on the Pee Dee River, Chicora Wood Plantation has architectural, military, agricultural, industrial, political, social/humanitarian, educational, and literary significance.

Architecturally, Chicora Wood is an outstanding early 19th-Century plantation home. Mounted on the typical raised basement used throughout the Southern coastal area for increased ventilation, the house has lines that are simple and of diminutive proportions. Slender Doric columns and delicate balustrade adorn the facade. Interior woodwork, obviously the product of skilled craftsmen, reflects the simple architectural lines of the exterior.

Agricultural Significance: Chicora Wood Plantation, originally called Mantanzas, was owned in 1806 by Alexander Rose, a Charleston merchant, who sold the tract to Benjamin Allston, Jr. Robert F.W. Allston inherited the plantation upon his father's death in 1819 but did not assume full responsibility until 1824. George C. Rogers in his History of Georgetown County states that R.F.W. Allston was the most notable planter on the Pee Dee River. Chicora Wood served as home plantation for Allston's complex of rice plantations which produced 840,000 pounds of rice in 1850 and increased to 1,500,000 pounds by 1860. The slave labor force which produced the rice numbered 401 in 1850, increasing to 630 by 1860.

Allston was always interested in innovative agricultural techniques and served as president of the Winyah and All Saints Agricultural Society for many years. Several of his agricultural essays were published in well known journals.

Political Significance: Robert F.W. Allston, a firm believer in the strict constructionist principles of Thomas Jefferson, became politically active in 1828 when elected to represent the parish of Prince George Winyah in the South Carolina House of Representatives. A strong proponent of Calhoun's Nullification doctrine, Allston was defeated by a Unionist in 1832. As the result of a special election held later in the same year, Allston was elected parish senator, a position which he held until 1856. From 1856-58, Allston served as governor of the state.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allston, Robert F.W., Easterby, J.H. (editor). The South Carolina Rice Plantation. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1945.
 Davidson, Chalmers. The Last Foray. Columbia, South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press, 1971.
 Lachicotte, Alberta Morel. Georgetown Rice Plantations. Columbia, South Carolina: The State Printing Co., 1970.
 Pringle, Elizabeth W. Allston. Chronicles of Chicora Wood. Boston, Mass. The Christopher Publishing House, 1940.
 (continued)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	33 °	31	19.2	79 °	10	55		
NE	33 °	31	19.2	79 °	10	08.7		
SE	33 °	30	48.2	79 °	10	08.7		
SW	33 °	30	48.2	79 °	10	55		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 40 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Nancy R. Ruhf, Historic Preservation Division

ORGANIZATION: S.C. Department of Archives and History DATE: 11/9/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
1430 Senate Street, P.O. Box 11,188 Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN: Columbia STATE: South Carolina CODE: 45

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name Charles E. Lee
 Title Director, S.C. Department of Archives and History
 Date Nov 14, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/11/73

ATTEST:
W. J. Munter
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 4.3.73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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CHICORA WOOD PLANTATION

7. Description - Continuation Sheet **4**

with a center cluster of grapes (c. 1880). The same under-window treatment as in the living room is repeated here, as is the simple basemold. The room has heart pine floors and a rear door to the kitchen with transom light. The kitchen and pantry have been remodeled with new cabinets at the fireplace wall, simple base, cast plaster ceiling cornice, panel spaces under the windows and an interesting circular staircase to the second floor and attic.

The library, to the right, is entered through an original six panel door with door frame cut into rear wall. The room has a cast plaster cornice and repeats the beaded base mold. A classic wooden mantel has been painted black to simulate the marble mantels in the front rooms. The window spaces below the sill have the same paneling as the other rooms on this floor. Double doors into the living room have recessed flat panels. A four-panel door with transom leads to a rear addition. All rooms on this floor have candle shelves over the door frames.

The second floor landing has a good pointed-arch window. The upper hall has a cast plaster cornice, which may be later, and a ceiling medallion of concentric semi-circles. The doors to the four bedrooms and the attic stairs are four-paneled with simple trim. The front left bedroom has a white marble mantel of classic detail, cast ceiling medallion and cornice, paneling under the windows and good brass box locks. The simple beaded base mold has been marbleized with paint and appears original. The front right bedroom is identical, except for the mantel of slightly different detail. The rear right bedroom has a black marble Greek Revival mantel, no chair rail or cornice, the same under-the-window panels, pine floors and four-panel door, but the base mold is not marbleized and a bath and dressing alcove have been added. The other rear bedroom has the same detailing.

The attic has a later dormer but original floor, circular stair to the kitchen and split lathes. Four-panel doors lead to hall and a closet. A one-story rear addition has a series of bedrooms and storage facilities. The doors are early, six-paneled. The floor is original and there is a beaded chair rail, no cornice and shallow base mold. Three rooms have simple wood mantels, probably later. This addition dates from sometime in the late 19th Century but does not detract.

The plantation complex includes a number of excellent outbuildings: original kitchen, smoke house and a later carriage house, wash house and later farm buildings. The kitchen is one story Greek Revival temple form and has great architectural interest. Huge cooking fireplace and

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CHICORA WOOD PLANTATION

7. Description - Continuation Sheet #2

original interior framing, mortised and tenoned. The door has a latch string and wooden latch with iron hinges, and windows are solid panels below with a round-headed sash above. The old plantation bell is supported by a conveyor screw salvaged from the rice mill. The rice mill complex, one of the most interesting remaining examples of its type, includes the mill and shipping house.

Chicora Wood is the finest building of its type in the Waccamaw Region and must be protected.

Analysis and comments by Russell Wright, A.I.P. in Historic Preservation, Reston, Virginia.



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CHICORA WOOD PLANTATION

8. Significance - Continuation Sheet

Allston's wife, Adele Petigru Allston, was the sister of James L. Petigru, one of South Carolina's leading Unionists in the antebellum era.

Social/Humanitarian and Educational Significance: During his long political career, Robert F.W. Allston initiated many programs for improving the condition of South Carolina's Catawba Indians, the deaf and dumb, the blind and the insane.

Allston was a strong advocate in the General Assembly of the free school system. It was his conviction that the public school system could not attain a high level of education unless it was attended by children of all socio-economic classes. He also asked for local district taxation to supplement state aid for education, an increase in the state appropriation, creation of the office of superintendent of education, and printing of necessary textbooks within the state. Although his program was never adopted in its entirety, he had the satisfaction of seeing the annual appropriation for education doubled in 1852 and several of his proposals adopted by the City of Charleston's free school system.

Industrial Significance: In History of Georgetown County, Professor Rogers notes that large scale planters often operated their own rice mills on the plantations. Robert F.W. Allston was among this group and the mill which he built is included in this nomination. Upon inspection of the mill, Russell Wright, A.I.P. of Reston, Virginia, recommended that the mill be researched by the Historic American Engineering Record since it is one of the few remaining in South Carolina.

Military Significance: In Chronicles of Chicora Wood, Elizabeth Waties Allston Pringle, daughter of Robert F.W. Allston, tells of Federal troops plundering Chicora Wood and taking many family valuables.

Robert F.W. Allston, a graduate of West Point, served as colonel in the South Carolina Militia for many years but did not take an active part in the Civil War due to advanced age. He supported the Confederate cause by continuing to produce rice which he contributed to the Southern forces.

Both of Allston's sons, Benjamin and Charles, served in the Confederate Army.

Literary Significance: Robert F.W. Allston shared his innovative methods of cultivation with agrarians throughout the nation through his articles in such well known journals as the Southern Agriculturist and DeBow's Review. His Essay on Sea Coast Crops was presented to the Agricultural Association of the Planting States in 1853 and published by the society.

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CHICORA WOOD PLANTATION

8. Significance - Continuation Sheet #2

A collection of Allston's papers, edited by J.H. Easterby (then professor of history at the College of Charleston) and entitled The South Carolina Rice Planter, is considered among the most informative publications on this phase of southern agriculture.

Allston's daughter, Elizabeth Waties Allston Pringle, continued the family's literary tradition with two popular journals, Chronicles of Chicora Wood and A Woman Rice Planter, narratives on her plantation childhood and her successful cultivation of rice after the Civil War.



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CHICORA WOOD PLANTATION

9. Major Bibliographical References

Pringle, Elizabeth W. Allston. Woman Rice Planter. New York: The MacMillan Co., 1928.

Rogers, George C. The History of Georgetown County South Carolina. Columbia, South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press, 1970.

